

Message Text

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12

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:DAO'DONOHUE:CHG

APPROVED BY EA - MR ZURHELLEN

EUR/SOV - MR MONTGOMERY

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R 132015Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 111304

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: RUSSIAN EMBASSY COMMENTS ON KOREAN SITUATION

1. ON MAY 12 SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICER (TREFANO) CALLED ON KOREA COUNTRY DIRECTOR TO DISCUSS KOREAN SITUATION. MAIN INTEREST WAS KIM IL SUNG VISIT TO PEKING AND ROK DOMESTIC SITUATION.

2. IN DISCUSSING KIM VISIT TREFANO STATED CATEGORICALLY THAT IT SOVIET UNDERSTANDING THAT KIM IL SUNG SET DATE OF VISIT TAKING ADVANTAGE OF LONG STANDING PRC INVITATION. TREFANO SAID THAT KIM ALSO HAS A LONG STANDING SOVIET INVITATION TO VISIT MOSCOW. IN FACT, KIM HAD PREVIOUSLY POSTPONED TENTATIVE VISITS TO MOSCOW BOTH IN 1973 AND 1974. TREFANO SAID HE HAD NO CONCRETE INFORMATION ABOUT ANY PLANNING FOR MOSCOW VISIT IN NEAR FUTURE. HOWEVER, TREFANO SAID, KIM COULD, AS IN CASE PEKING VISIT, SIMPLY
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AT ANY TIME HE CHOOSES, ACCEPT STANDING SOVIET INVITATION

AND COME.

3. IN ASSESSING KIM'S VISIT TO PEKING, TREFANO INDICATED THAT HE SAW NO CHANGE IN BASIC CHINESE POSITION ON PEACEFUL UNIFICATION. FURTHER, HE DID NOT READ ANY MAJOR

SIGNIFICANCE INTO CHINESE STATEMENTS ON US FORCE WITHDRAWAL, SINCE THEY WERE REITERATION OF STANDING CHINESE POSITION.

4. IN RESPONSE TO TREFANO QUERY, KOREAN COUNTRY DIRECTOR STATED THAT WE DO NOT SEE ANY PARALLEL BETWEEN SEA EVENTS AND KOREAN SITUATION. HE NOTED THAT BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY HAVE REAFFIRMED OUR SECURITY COMMITMENTS WITH REGARD TO THE ROKG. FURTHER NOTED THAT WHILE WE DO NOT WISH TO OVERREACT WE DO BELIEVE THAT MILITANT UNCOMPROMISING TONE OF KIM IL SUNG'S POLICY AND STATEMENTS CREATES AN ATMOSPHERE OF TENSION.

5. TREFANO INDICATED THAT US POSITION IS QUITE CLEAR AND UNDERSTANDABLE. HOWEVER, HE NOTED THAT KOREAN DOMESTIC SITUATION IS TROUBLED. KOREAN COUNTRY DIRECTOR POINTED OUT THAT WHATEVER THEIR POLITICAL DIFFERENCES, PRESIDENT PARK AND HIS POLITICAL OPPOSITION HAVE EXACTLY SAME VIEW OF THE SECURITY THREAT FROM NORTH KOREA.

KISSINGER

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